Forest dwellers

1069. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is necessary to carryout the 'declare bonafide' forest dwellers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some forest dwellers belonging to Scheduled Tribes are being evicted from the forest areas and wildlife sanctuaries; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, seeks to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recoreded. The 'forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes' and 'other traditional forest dwellers', for the purposes of the said Act, are defined in Section 2(c) and 2(o) of the Act. A copy of the Act is available on the website (www.tribal.gov.in) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(c) and (d) There is no case reported by the State/UT Government regarding eviction of forest dwellers belonging to Scheduled Tribes. However, the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment & Forests has issued guidelines to the States/UT Governments *vide* their letter dated 21.2.2004 for discontinuance of eviction of Tribals. Further, Section 4 (5) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 also provides that no member of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dweller shall be evicted or removed from forest land under his occupation till the recognition and verfication procedure is complete.

Atrocities and violence against women

1T070. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of atrocities and violence against women like kidnapping, rape, burning them till death during the last three years till date, in various States of the country; and

(b) the efforts being made of Government to stop the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATIRENUKACHOWDHURY): (a) The information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs for the years 2004-2005 and 2006 is in the Annexure.

[See Appendix 213 Annexure No. 2]

(b) Action, to curb crimes against women and proposals for their empowerment is an ongoing exercise as detailed in the enclosed statement.

t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.